

FROM Larkin Hoffman

952 1537

(TUE) 3. 5' 02 9 /ST. 9:18/NO. 4260892091 P 1

## **FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**LARKIN, HOFFMAN, DALY & LINDGREN, LTD.**

Attorneys at Law

1500 Wells Fargo Plaza

7900 Xerxes Avenue South

Bloomington, Minnesota 55431

Telephone: (952) 835-3800

TO: Examiner Kristine Markovich

FAX NUMBER: 703-308-8623

Total Transmitted Pages

3

(Including Cover Sheet):

FROM: Thomas J. Oppold

Copy to follow by U.S. Mail:  Yes  No

PHONE NUMBER: 952-896-3397

Respond to FAX No. 952-896-3333

DATE: March 5, 2002

FILE NUMBER: 27136-01

## **MESSAGE**

**PLEASE DELIVER FAX IMMEDIATELY.**

Re: U.S. App. SN: 09/553,492

**Proposed claims in anticipation of interview scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on March 5, 2002.**

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS ATTORNEY PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER IT TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THE COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

**IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.**

Fax Operator's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Transmitted: \_\_\_\_\_

## PROPOSED CLAIMS

Cancel claim 24.

*Cancel claim 2*

25. (New) A temporary protective ramp adapted for use on a roadway under construction, the roadway having a roadway surface and an obstruction elevated above the roadway surface by a height corresponding to an expected elevation of the roadway upon completion of construction, the temporary protective ramp being adapted for a removable placement adjacent the obstruction to prevent damaging impact of the obstruction and vehicles traveling on the roadway under construction; the temporary protective ramp comprising:

*removably coupled together*

a plurality of ramp segments, each ramp segment having a lower surface adapted for contacting the roadway surface and an upper surface adapted (for contact with vehicle wheels) during use and inclined downwardly from a first edge portion at an apex of the ramp segment to a second edge portion opposite the first edge portion, each of the ramp segments being positionable with the first edge portion adjacent an elevated obstruction with the lower surface contacting the roadway surface and with the apex at a height substantially the same as a height of the obstruction above the roadway surface, and with the upper surface inclined downwardly in a direction away from the obstruction, for allowing vehicles traveling on the roadway to ride up and over the elevated obstruction without damage;

wherein said upper surface of each ramp segment is inclined at least approximately 1:20.

*New*

2. (Twice Amended). The temporary ramp of claim [24] 25, wherein said first and second adjacent ramp segments are removably coupled together and transfer forces between segments during use.

7. (Twice Amended). The temporary ramp of claim [24] 25, wherein the upper inclined surfaces of the ramp segments are an elastomeric material.

12. (Twice Amended). The temporary ramp of claim [24] 25, and further comprising a hinge mechanism positioned between adjacent edge portions of the first and second ramp

segments and allow the first and second ramp segments to pivot with respect to one another when removed from the roadway.

13. (Twice Amended). The temporary ramp of claim [24] 25, wherein the ramp segments further comprise fastener openings through which fasteners are positioned, said fasteners being coupled with the roadway beneath the ramp segments and operatively abut the ramp segments to assist the ramp segments resist the forces transmitted to the ramp segments by vehicles traveling across the ramp segments.

749604.1